

silver halide grains having an average grain diameter of not less than  $0.3\ \mu\text{m}$  and an aspect ratio of from not less than 2 to not more than 100 in an amount of not less than 50% of all silver halide grains as calculated in terms of area; wherein said tabular silver halide grains are core/shell type grains, the average grain thickness a along the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not less than  $0.2\ \mu\text{m}$  to not more than  $1.5\ \mu\text{m}$  and the average grain thickness b perpendicular to the main plane of the external shell thereof is from not less than  $0.04\ \mu\text{m}$  to not more than  $0.30\ \mu\text{m}$ ; and

*composed of silver bromide and*  
wherein the cores of said core/shell type grains are subjected to chemical sensitization in the presence of at least one compound selected from the group consisting of compounds represented by the following formula (A), (B) or (C) and a gold sensitizer in combination under the condition that substantially no thiosulfate ion is present during the chemical sensitization:



wherein R,  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  may be the same or different and each represents an aliphatic group, aromatic group or heterocyclic group; M represents a cation; L represents a divalent linking group; m represents 0 or an integer of 1; the compounds of the formula (A), (B) or (C) may be each in the form of a polymer containing, as a repeating unit, a divalent group derived from the